



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2022

LCO No. 6370



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Offered by:

REP. CURREY, 11th Dist.

SEN. HARTLEY, 15th Dist.

REP. BUCKBEE, 67th Dist.

SEN. MARTIN, 31st Dist.

To: House Bill No. **5122**

File No. 30

Cal. No. 69

***"AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ISSUES."***

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established the
4 Connecticut Semiquincentennial Commission to commemorate the two
5 hundred fiftieth anniversary of the American Revolution. The
6 commission shall be within the office of the Secretary of the State for
7 administrative purposes only. The purpose of the commission shall be
8 to: (1) Assist in ensuring that any observance of the semiquincentennial
9 of the American Revolution is inclusive and appropriately recognizes
10 the experiences and points of view of all people affected by the events
11 surrounding the American Revolution; (2) encourage civic, historical,
12 educational, economic, arts and other organizations throughout the

13 state to organize and participate in activities to expand the
14 understanding and appreciation of the significance of the American
15 Revolution; (3) collaborate with state and local tourism agencies to
16 promote the state as a prominent cultural and heritage tourism
17 destination for American Revolution history; (4) encourage
18 interdisciplinary and scholarly examination of the American
19 Revolution; and (5) explore the ways in which the ethos of the United
20 States' national founding period and the two hundred fifty years that
21 follow influence the United States' present and can shape its future.

22 (b) The commission shall consist of the following members:

23 (1) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
24 who shall be a representative of Connecticut Humanities;

25 (2) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, who
26 shall be a representative of the Connecticut Democracy Center;

27 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
28 Representatives, who shall be a representative of the Mohegan Tribe;

29 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who shall be
30 a representative of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation;

31 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
32 Representatives, who shall be a representative of the Connecticut
33 Historical Society;

34 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who shall be
35 a representative of the Connecticut League of History Organizations;

36 (7) Four appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be a
37 representative of the Mary and Eliza Freeman Center for History and
38 Community and one of whom shall be a student or youth leader
39 recommended by the executive director of the Old State House;

40 (8) The Secretary of the State, or the Secretary's designee;

41 (9) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee;

42 (10) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development,
43 or the commissioner's designee;

44 (11) The Commissioner of Aging and Disability Services, or the
45 commissioner's designee;

46 (12) The State Historic Preservation Officer designated pursuant to 36
47 CFR 61.2, or the officer's designee;

48 (13) The State Historian, or the State Historian's designee; and

49 (14) The State Librarian, or the State Librarian's designee.

50 (c) All initial appointments to the commission shall be made not later
51 than sixty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall
52 be filled by the appointing authority. Members of the commission shall
53 serve without compensation.

54 (d) The Governor shall appoint a chairperson and vice-chairperson
55 from among the members of the commission or their designees. The
56 chairperson shall schedule the first meeting of the commission, which
57 shall be held not later than sixty days after all initial appointments to the
58 commission are made pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

59 (e) A majority of the membership of the commission shall constitute
60 a quorum, but the commission may hold meetings without a quorum.
61 Any decision shall be made by a majority vote of members present at a
62 meeting at which there is a quorum. The commission may adopt rules
63 of procedure.

64 (f) The commission shall have the following duties: (1)
65 Commemorate the semiquincentennial of the American Revolution and
66 Connecticut's participation and contributions to it, including, but not
67 limited to, developing activities in recognition of the historic, social,
68 legal, cultural and political forces that caused the American Revolution
69 and influenced its course and outcomes; (2) collaborate with and assist

70 other state and national organizations with programs and activities for
71 the observance of the semiquincentennial of the American Revolution
72 in the state; (3) facilitate American Revolution-related activities
73 throughout the state; (4) provide assistance to municipalities and
74 nonprofit organizations for the development of programs, projects and
75 activities pertaining to the American Revolution that have lasting
76 educational value within the state; and (5) support the creation of
77 educational opportunities for students and all members of the public
78 who wish to explore the intricacies of the founding period of the United
79 States.

80 (g) To carry out the provisions of this section, the commission may
81 take the following actions: (1) Engage in any activity permitted by a tax-
82 exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue
83 Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code
84 of the United States, as from time to time amended; (2) solicit, accept
85 and use grants and charitable funds made available by the United States
86 government or any United States agency to commemorate the
87 semiquincentennial of the American Revolution; (3) work in conjunction
88 with any tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal
89 Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal
90 revenue code of the United States, as from time to time amended, with
91 a similar mission to solicit, accept and use funds or in-kind contributions
92 from private entities to commemorate the semiquincentennial of the
93 American Revolution; (4) request funds from the General Assembly to
94 commemorate the semiquincentennial of the American Revolution; (5)
95 establish any advisory or subcommittee that the commission deems
96 necessary; or (6) authorize any member of the commission to take any
97 action that the commission is authorized to take pursuant to this section.

98 (h) Each state agency shall provide advice and information to the
99 commission upon the commission's request if such information is
100 consistent with the commission's purpose and duties as set forth in
101 subsections (a) and (f) of this section.

102 (i) Not later than January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the

103 commission shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section
104 11-4a of the general statutes, regarding the activities of the commission,
105 including, but not limited to, an accounting of any funds received or
106 expended by the commission, to the joint standing committees of the
107 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to government
108 administration, education, appropriations and commerce. Not later
109 than October 1, 2026, the commission shall report, in accordance with
110 the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, regarding the
111 activities of the commission, including, but not limited to, a final
112 accounting of any funds received or expended by the commission to the
113 joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance
114 of matters relating to government administration, education,
115 appropriations and commerce. The commission shall terminate on
116 January 1, 2028, or, if the commission deems appropriate, before said
117 date."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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